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FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

end

Title 18A.
Subtitle 12A.
Part 2.
Chapter 71B.
Article 14. (New)
Military
Dependents
Scholarship Fund
§§1-6 -
C.18A:71B-98 to
18A:71B-103

P.L.2015, CHAPTER 117, *approved October 26, 2015*
Assembly, No. 2849 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT establishing a college scholarship fund and supplementing
2 chapter 71B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the “Military
8 Dependents Scholarship Fund Act.”

9

10 2. a. There is established in the Higher Education Student
11 Assistance Authority a nonlapsing fund which shall be known as the
12 Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund shall be
13 administered by the board of trustees established pursuant to section
14 3 of this act.

15 b. The fund shall consist of: all moneys appropriated by the
16 Legislature for inclusion in the fund; investment earnings of the
17 fund; and moneys contributed to the fund by private sources, to be
18 used for the purposes of this act.

19 c. The moneys in the fund shall be invested and reinvested by
20 the Director of the Division of Investment in the Department of the
21 Treasury.

22

23 3. a. The board of trustees of the Military Dependents
24 Scholarship Fund shall consist of the State Adjutant General, or a
25 designee, the State Treasurer, or a designee, the executive director
26 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, or a
27 designee, the Secretary of Higher Education, or a designee, and
28 ¹**[eight]** nine¹ public members appointed as follows: two by the
29 President of the Senate, who shall not be of the same political party,
30 two by the Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be of

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AMV committee amendments adopted May 15, 2014.

1 the same political party, and ~~'[four]~~ five¹ by the Governor, with
2 the advice and consent of the Senate, no more than ~~'[two]~~ three¹ of
3 whom shall be of the same political party. ~~'[Five]~~ At least five¹ of
4 the public members shall be persons who were directly affected by
5 Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation
6 Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. Two of the public
7 members shall be named by the Governor to serve as co-
8 chairpersons of the board.

9 b. Each public member of the board shall serve for a term of
10 three years and until a successor shall have been appointed and
11 qualified; except that of the first members appointed, two shall
12 serve for one year, three shall serve for two years and ~~'[three]~~
13 four¹ shall serve for three years. Any vacancy in the membership of
14 the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original
15 appointment for the remainder of the unexpired term.

16 c. Members of the board shall serve without compensation.
17 Reasonable expenses of the board shall be paid out of the fund
18 proceeds, subject to approval by the State Treasurer.

19 d. The board shall have the following duties and
20 responsibilities:

- 21 (1) determine eligibility for a scholarship from the fund;
- 22 (2) determine the amount of each scholarship award;
- 23 (3) report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the
24 performance of its duties in accordance with the provisions of this
25 act;
- 26 (4) solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military
27 Dependents Scholarship program; and
- 28 (5) receive and disburse such contributions to the fund as may
29 be forthcoming from private and public sources.

30
31 4. a. The board of trustees is authorized to award scholarships
32 from the fund for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or
33 independent institution of higher education to the spouse, child, or
34 other eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed,
35 officially listed as "Missing in Action" by the United States
36 Department of Defense, or totally and permanently disabled as
37 certified by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs as a
38 consequence of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring
39 Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

40 b. Scholarships from the fund may be awarded annually upon
41 proper application by any student who qualifies under the criteria
42 established by the authority.

43
44 5. a. A Military Dependents Scholarship shall not be awarded
45 to an applicant unless the applicant has demonstrated to the
46 satisfaction of the board that the applicant:

- 47 (1) will be or is enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program of
48 study leading to a degree at an institution of higher education; and

1 (2) has complied with all rules and regulations adopted pursuant
2 to this act for the award, regulation and administration of
3 scholarships from the fund.

4 b. Eligibility for a Military Survivors Scholarship, in the case
5 of a spouse or other eligible dependent, shall be limited to a period
6 of 15 years from the date of death of the person, the date the person
7 is officially listed as "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the
8 person is certified to have been totally and permanently disabled for
9 initial receipt of the benefits under the program. In the case of a
10 dependent child, eligibility shall be limited to a period of eight
11 years following graduation from high school.

12
13 6. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, in
14 consultation with the ¹【New Jersey Commission on】 Secretary of¹
15 Higher Education, shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the
16 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
17 seq.), necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act, including
18 establishing criteria for eligibility for a scholarship from the fund
19 and procedures for determining the amount of each scholarship
20 award.

21
22 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

23
24
25
26

27 _____
28 "Military Dependents Scholarship Fund Act"; provides college
29 scholarships to the spouses and children of those killed, missing in
30 action or disabled in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring
Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

ASSEMBLY, No. 2849

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 10, 2014

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman VINCENT MAZZEO

District 2 (Atlantic)

Assemblyman TIMOTHY J. EUSTACE

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman GILBERT "WHIP" L. WILSON

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman CHRISTOPHER J. BROWN

District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Conaway, Andrzejczak, Coughlin, Lagana, Singleton,

Assemblywomen Lampitt, Mosquera, Assemblyman Gusciora,

Assemblywoman Tucker, Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywoman Vainieri

Huttle, Assemblyman DeAngelo, Assemblywomen Rodriguez-Gregg,

Quijano, Assemblymen Fiocchi, Diegnan and Assemblywoman Jimenez

SYNOPSIS

“Military Dependents Scholarship Fund Act”; provides college scholarships to the spouses and children of those killed, missing in action or disabled in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/16/2014)

1 AN ACT establishing a college scholarship fund and supplementing
2 chapter 71B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the “Military
8 Dependents Scholarship Fund Act.”

9

10 2. a. There is established in the Higher Education Student
11 Assistance Authority a nonlapsing fund which shall be known as the
12 Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund shall be
13 administered by the board of trustees established pursuant to section
14 3 of this act.

15 b. The fund shall consist of: all moneys appropriated by the
16 Legislature for inclusion in the fund; investment earnings of the
17 fund; and moneys contributed to the fund by private sources, to be
18 used for the purposes of this act.

19 c. The moneys in the fund shall be invested and reinvested by
20 the Director of the Division of Investment in the Department of the
21 Treasury.

22

23 3. a. The board of trustees of the Military Dependents
24 Scholarship Fund shall consist of the State Adjutant General, or a
25 designee, the State Treasurer, or a designee, the executive director
26 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, or a
27 designee, the Secretary of Higher Education, or a designee, and
28 eight public members appointed as follows: two by the President of
29 the Senate, who shall not be of the same political party, two by the
30 Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be of the same
31 political party, and four by the Governor, with the advice and
32 consent of the Senate, no more than two of whom shall be of the
33 same political party. Five of the public members shall be persons
34 who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle, Operation
35 Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New
36 Dawn. Two of the public members shall be named by the Governor
37 to serve as co-chairpersons of the board.

38 b. Each public member of the board shall serve for a term of
39 three years and until a successor shall have been appointed and
40 qualified; except that of the first members appointed, two shall
41 serve for one year, three shall serve for two years and three shall
42 serve for three years. Any vacancy in the membership of the board
43 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for
44 the remainder of the unexpired term.

45 c. Members of the board shall serve without compensation.
46 Reasonable expenses of the board shall be paid out of the fund
47 proceeds, subject to approval by the State Treasurer.

48 d. The board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 1 (1) determine eligibility for a scholarship from the fund;
- 2 (2) determine the amount of each scholarship award;
- 3 (3) report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the
- 4 performance of its duties in accordance with the provisions of this
- 5 act;
- 6 (4) solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military
- 7 Dependents Scholarship program; and
- 8 (5) receive and disburse such contributions to the fund as may
- 9 be forthcoming from private and public sources.

10

11 4. a. The board of trustees is authorized to award scholarships

12 from the fund for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or

13 independent institution of higher education to the spouse, child, or

14 other eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed,

15 officially listed as "Missing in Action" by the United States

16 Department of Defense, or totally and permanently disabled as

17 certified by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs as a

18 consequence of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring

19 Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

20 b. Scholarships from the fund may be awarded annually upon

21 proper application by any student who qualifies under the criteria

22 established by the authority.

23

24 5. a. A Military Dependents Scholarship shall not be awarded to

25 an applicant unless the applicant has demonstrated to the

26 satisfaction of the board that the applicant:

27 (1) will be or is enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program of

28 study leading to a degree at an institution of higher education; and

29 (2) has complied with all rules and regulations adopted pursuant

30 to this act for the award, regulation and administration of

31 scholarships from the fund.

32 b. Eligibility for a Military Survivors Scholarship, in the case of

33 a spouse or other eligible dependent, shall be limited to a period of

34 15 years from the date of death of the person, the date the person is

35 officially listed as "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the

36 person is certified to have been totally and permanently disabled for

37 initial receipt of the benefits under the program. In the case of a

38 dependent child, eligibility shall be limited to a period of eight

39 years following graduation from high school.

40

41 6. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, in

42 consultation with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education,

43 shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative

44 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to

45 effectuate the purposes of this act, including establishing criteria for

46 eligibility for a scholarship from the fund and procedures for

47 determining the amount of each scholarship award.

1 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 This bill establishes in the Higher Education Student Assistance
7 Authority the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund will
8 be used to provide scholarships to the spouse, child, or other
9 eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed, missing
10 in action or totally and permanently disabled as a consequence of
11 Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation
12 Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The scholarships will be
13 provided to pay for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or
14 independent institution of higher education.

15 The bill establishes a board of trustees of the fund which is
16 authorized to award scholarships from the Military Dependents
17 Scholarship Fund. The board will consist of the State Adjutant
18 General, the State Treasurer, the executive director of the Higher
19 Education Student Assistance Authority, the Secretary of Higher
20 Education, or their designees, and eight public members appointed
21 as follows: two by the President of the Senate, two by the Speaker
22 of the General Assembly and four by the Governor, with the advice
23 and consent of the Senate. Five of the public members are required
24 to be persons who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle,
25 Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or
26 Operation New Dawn and no more than four of the public members
27 may be of the same political party. The board will have the
28 following duties: determine eligibility for a scholarship from the
29 fund; determine the amount of each scholarship award; report
30 annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the performance of
31 its duties; solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military
32 Dependents Scholarship Program; and receive and disburse such
33 contributions to the fund as may be forthcoming from private and
34 public sources.

35 In order to receive a scholarship the applicant will have to
36 demonstrate that the applicant will be or is enrolled in a full-time
37 undergraduate program of study leading to a degree at an institution
38 of higher education and has complied with all rules and regulations
39 for the award, regulation and administration of scholarships from
40 the fund. Eligibility for the scholarship program, in the case of a
41 spouse, will be limited to a period of 15 years from the date of
42 death of the person, the date the person is officially listed as
43 "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the person is certified
44 to have been totally and permanently disabled for initial receipt of
45 the benefits. In the case of a dependent child, eligibility will be
46 limited to a period of eight years following graduation from high
47 school.

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 2849

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 2014

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly, No. 2849.

This bill establishes in the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund will be used to provide scholarships to the spouse, child, or other eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed, missing in action or totally and permanently disabled as a consequence of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The scholarships will be provided to pay for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or independent institution of higher education.

As amended, the bill establishes a board of trustees of the fund which is authorized to award scholarships from the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The board will consist of the State Adjutant General, the State Treasurer, the executive director of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, the Secretary of Higher Education, or their designees, and nine public members appointed as follows: two by the President of the Senate, two by the Speaker of the General Assembly and five by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. At least five of the public members are required to be persons who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The board will have the following duties: determine eligibility for a scholarship from the fund; determine the amount of each scholarship award; report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the performance of its duties; solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military Dependents Scholarship Program; and receive and disburse such contributions to the fund as may be forthcoming from private and public sources.

In order to receive a scholarship the applicant will have to demonstrate that the applicant will be or is enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program of study leading to a degree at an institution of higher education and has complied with all rules and regulations for

the award, regulation and administration of scholarships from the fund. Eligibility for the scholarship program, in the case of a spouse, will be limited to a period of 15 years from the date of death of the person, the date the person is officially listed as "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the person is certified to have been totally and permanently disabled for initial receipt of the benefits. In the case of a dependent child, eligibility will be limited to a period of eight years following graduation from high school.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to update an agency name change and to add one member to the board of trustees to create an odd number of board members.

SENATE, No. 1812

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 24, 2014

Sponsored by:

Senator JIM WHELAN

District 2 (Atlantic)

Senator JAMES BEACH

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Van Drew

SYNOPSIS

“Military Dependents Scholarship Fund Act”; provides college scholarships to the spouses and children of those killed, missing in action or disabled in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/6/2014)

S1812 WHELAN, BEACH

2

1 AN ACT establishing a college scholarship fund and supplementing
2 chapter 71B of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the “Military
8 Dependents Scholarship Fund Act.”

9

10 2. a. There is established in the Higher Education Student
11 Assistance Authority a nonlapsing fund which shall be known as the
12 Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund shall be
13 administered by the board of trustees established pursuant to section
14 3 of this act.

15 b. The fund shall consist of: all moneys appropriated by the
16 Legislature for inclusion in the fund; investment earnings of the
17 fund; and moneys contributed to the fund by private sources, to be
18 used for the purposes of this act.

19 c. The moneys in the fund shall be invested and reinvested by
20 the Director of the Division of Investment in the Department of the
21 Treasury.

22

23 3. a. The board of trustees of the Military Dependents
24 Scholarship Fund shall consist of the State Adjutant General, or a
25 designee, the State Treasurer, or a designee, the executive director
26 of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, or a
27 designee, the Secretary of Higher Education, or a designee, and
28 eight public members appointed as follows: two by the President of
29 the Senate, who shall not be of the same political party, two by the
30 Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be of the same
31 political party, and four by the Governor, with the advice and
32 consent of the Senate, no more than two of whom shall be of the
33 same political party. Five of the public members shall be persons
34 who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle, Operation
35 Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New
36 Dawn. Two of the public members shall be named by the Governor
37 to serve as co-chairpersons of the board.

38 b. Each public member of the board shall serve for a term of
39 three years and until a successor shall have been appointed and
40 qualified; except that of the first members appointed, two shall
41 serve for one year, three shall serve for two years and three shall
42 serve for three years. Any vacancy in the membership of the board
43 shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment for
44 the remainder of the unexpired term.

45 c. Members of the board shall serve without compensation.
46 Reasonable expenses of the board shall be paid out of the fund
47 proceeds, subject to approval by the State Treasurer.

48 d. The board shall have the following duties and

1 responsibilities:

2 (1) determine eligibility for a scholarship from the fund;

3 (2) determine the amount of each scholarship award;

4 (3) report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the
5 performance of its duties in accordance with the provisions of this
6 act;

7 (4) solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military
8 Dependents Scholarship program; and

9 (5) receive and disburse such contributions to the fund as may
10 be forthcoming from private and public sources.

11

12 4. a. The board of trustees is authorized to award scholarships
13 from the fund for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or
14 independent institution of higher education to the spouse, child, or
15 other eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed,
16 officially listed as "Missing in Action" by the United States
17 Department of Defense, or totally and permanently disabled as
18 certified by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs as a
19 consequence of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring
20 Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn.

21 b. Scholarships from the fund may be awarded annually upon
22 proper application by any student who qualifies under the criteria
23 established by the authority.

24

25 5. a. A Military Dependents Scholarship shall not be awarded to
26 an applicant unless the applicant has demonstrated to the
27 satisfaction of the board that the applicant:

28 (1) will be or is enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program of
29 study leading to a degree at an institution of higher education; and

30 (2) has complied with all rules and regulations adopted pursuant
31 to this act for the award, regulation and administration of
32 scholarships from the fund.

33 b. Eligibility for a Military Survivors Scholarship, in the case
34 of a spouse or other eligible dependent, shall be limited to a period
35 of 15 years from the date of death of the person, the date the person
36 is officially listed as "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the
37 person is certified to have been totally and permanently disabled for
38 initial receipt of the benefits under the program. In the case of a
39 dependent child, eligibility shall be limited to a period of eight
40 years following graduation from high school.

41

42 6. The Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, in
43 consultation with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education,
44 shall adopt rules and regulations pursuant to the "Administrative
45 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), necessary to
46 effectuate the purposes of this act, including establishing criteria for
47 eligibility for a scholarship from the fund and procedures for
48 determining the amount of each scholarship award.

1 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

2

3

4

STATEMENT

5

6 This bill establishes in the Higher Education Student Assistance
7 Authority the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund will
8 be used to provide scholarships to the spouse, child, or other
9 eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed, missing
10 in action or totally and permanently disabled as a consequence of
11 Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation
12 Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The scholarships will be
13 provided to pay for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or
14 independent institution of higher education.

15 The bill establishes a board of trustees of the fund which is
16 authorized to award scholarships from the Military Dependents
17 Scholarship Fund. The board will consist of the State Adjutant
18 General, the State Treasurer, the executive director of the Higher
19 Education Student Assistance Authority, the Secretary of Higher
20 Education, or their designees, and eight public members appointed
21 as follows: two by the President of the Senate, two by the Speaker
22 of the General Assembly and four by the Governor, with the advice
23 and consent of the Senate. Five of the public members are required
24 to be persons who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle,
25 Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or
26 Operation New Dawn and no more than four of the public members
27 may be of the same political party. The board will have the
28 following duties: determine eligibility for a scholarship from the
29 fund; determine the amount of each scholarship award; report
30 annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the performance of
31 its duties; solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military
32 Dependents Scholarship Program; and receive and disburse such
33 contributions to the fund as may be forthcoming from private and
34 public sources.

35 In order to receive a scholarship the applicant will have to
36 demonstrate that the applicant will be or is enrolled in a full-time
37 undergraduate program of study leading to a degree at an institution
38 of higher education and has complied with all rules and regulations
39 for the award, regulation and administration of scholarships from
40 the fund. Eligibility for the scholarship program, in the case of a
41 spouse, will be limited to a period of 15 years from the date of
42 death of the person, the date the person is officially listed as
43 "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the person is certified
44 to have been totally and permanently disabled for initial receipt of
45 the benefits. In the case of a dependent child, eligibility will be
46 limited to a period of eight years following graduation from high
47 school.

SENATE MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
SENATE, No. 1812

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 19, 2014

The Senate Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1812.

This bill establishes in the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The fund will be used to provide scholarships to the spouse, child, or other eligible dependent of a New Jersey resident who is killed, missing in action or totally and permanently disabled as a consequence of Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The scholarships will be provided to pay for the costs of undergraduate study at a public or independent institution of higher education.

As amended, the bill establishes a board of trustees of the fund which is authorized to award scholarships from the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund. The board will consist of the State Adjutant General, the State Treasurer, the executive director of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, the Secretary of Higher Education, or their designees, and nine public members appointed as follows: two by the President of the Senate, two by the Speaker of the General Assembly and five by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. At least five of the public members are required to be persons who were directly affected by Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn. The board will have the following duties: determine eligibility for a scholarship from the fund; determine the amount of each scholarship award; report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the performance of its duties; solicit and raise private funds to finance the Military Dependents Scholarship Program; and receive and disburse such contributions to the fund as may be forthcoming from private and public sources.

In order to receive a scholarship the applicant will have to demonstrate that the applicant will be or is enrolled in a full-time undergraduate program of study leading to a degree at an institution of higher education and has complied with all rules and regulations for

the award, regulation and administration of scholarships from the fund. Eligibility for the scholarship program, in the case of a spouse, will be limited to a period of 15 years from the date of death of the person, the date the person is officially listed as "Missing in Action" or the date upon which the person is certified to have been totally and permanently disabled for initial receipt of the benefits. In the case of a dependent child, eligibility will be limited to a period of eight years following graduation from high school.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 2849 (1R).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to update an agency name change and to add one member to the board of trustees to create an odd number of board members.

These amendments make this bill identical to Assembly Bill No. 2849 (1R).

Governor Christie Reaffirms Commitment to New Jersey Military Members Past and Present

Monday, October 26, 2015 Tags: [Bill Action](#)



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Trenton, NJ – Taking action to further strengthen support for New Jersey’s military members, veterans and their families, Governor Chris Christie today signed several measures designed to encourage entrepreneurship, provide educational opportunity assistance and protect the honor of the service of New Jersey’s military men and women.

“The service and sacrifice of our current military members and veterans to New Jersey and the nation is unequalled,” said Governor Christie. “This administration’s commitment to these brave men and women has never been stronger. By signing these three measures, we are not only reaffirming a pledge to those who serve, we are providing important opportunities for educational access and business development, and upholding the integrity and dignity of their service by punishing those who misrepresent themselves as serving in the military.”

Governor Christie signed the following legislation:

A976/S1353 (Assemblymembers Spencer and Schepisi/Senators Bateman and Smith): Creates State Contract Set-Aside programs for businesses owned and operated by disabled veterans;

A2849/S1812 (Assemblymembers Mazzeo, Eustace, Johnson, Wilson, Brown, Moriarty/Senators Whelan, Beach): Creates the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund Act to provide college scholarships to the spouses and children of those killed, missing in action or disabled in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn;

A4104/S2704 (Assemblymembers Andzejczak, Garcia, Lagana, Mazzeo, Mukherji, Tucker/Senators Cruz-Perez Van Drew): Creates the Stolen Valor Act, which makes unauthorized use of military uniforms, medals, or insignias to obtain benefit a third degree crime.

Throughout his term in office, Governor Christie has supported New Jersey’s veterans and their families through increased funding and support for various veterans-based housing, employment, and educational services and programs. Additional information for veterans programs and services is available on DMAVA’s website [here](#).

Press Contact:
Brian Murray
Nicole Sizemore
609-777-2600



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Statement From Governor Chris Christie on Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 11, 2015 Tags: [Statements](#)



Trenton, NJ – Governor Chris Christie issued the following statement marking Veterans Day:

“As Americans we owe an immeasurable debt of gratitude and appreciation to the brave men and women who have served or currently serve in our Armed Forces. These individuals defend our freedoms and preserve our way of life on a daily basis, all while putting their own lives at risk. New Jersey is home to over 400,000 veterans who have served our country honorably. We can never fully express our thanks and appreciation to our veterans and their families for their countless sacrifices to serve. Today we honor our veterans and express our appreciation for their patriotic service throughout our nation’s history.”

In October 2015, Governor Christie signed legislation bolstering opportunities for service members and their families. The legislation reaffirms Governor Christie’s commitment to encouraging entrepreneurship, providing educational opportunity assistance and protecting the honor of the service of New Jersey’s military men and women.

- A976/S1353** (Assemblymembers Spencer and Schepisi/Senators Bateman and Smith): Creates State Contract Set-Aside programs for businesses owned and operated by disabled veterans;
- A2849/S1812** (Assemblymembers Mazzeo, Eustace, Johnson, Wilson, Brown, Moriarty/Senators Whelan, Beach): Creates the Military Dependents Scholarship Fund Act to provide college scholarships to the spouses and children of those killed, missing in action or disabled in Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, or Operation New Dawn;
- A4104/S2704** (Assemblymembers Andzejczak, Garcia, Lagana, Mazzeo, Mukherji, Tucker/Senators Cruz-Perez Van Drew): Creates the Stolen Valor Act, which makes unauthorized use of military uniforms, medals, or insignias to obtain benefit a third degree crime.

Throughout his term in office, Governor Christie has supported New Jersey’s veterans and their families through increased funding and support for various veterans-based housing, employment, and educational services and programs. In the FY2016 budget, Governor Christie maintains his commitment to New Jersey’s veterans by providing \$8 million in new funding to expand access to health care for our veterans. This funding has been utilized to continue the Vets4Warriors Program at Rutgers University, a 24/7 toll-free peer support line staffed entirely by veterans, following news that the US Department of Defense would discontinue federal funding for the program. Since its inception in December 2011, Vets4Warriors has made over 130,000 veteran contacts and has continuously employed over 40 New Jersey veterans.

Additional information for veterans programs and services is available on DMAVA’s website [here](#).

Governor Christie also proclaimed November 11, 2015 as “Veterans Day” throughout New Jersey.

A copy of the Governor’s proclamation [[pdf 365kB](#)]

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